

REMARKS

Claims 105-142 are pending in the present application.

The specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to list the entire lineage of the present application, including the numbers of any patents to issue in the lineage.

The Examiner has asked for copies of items 15-30 listed in the PTO-1449 form of the IDS of March 15, 2004. Copies of the missing items are submitted herewith.¹ The items were also cited in related U.S. Patent Applications Nos. 09/854,175 and 10/138,919.

The Examiner has rejected claims 105-142 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,706,406, 6,630,249, or 6,050,208. Claims 105-142 also stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 22-25 and 37 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/138,919.

To overcome the aforementioned double-patenting rejections, Applicant submits herewith a first Terminal Disclaimer for the three listed U.S. Patents and a second Terminal Disclaimer for the co-pending U.S. Patent Application.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully asserts that the present Application is in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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¹ Please note that item 30 was initialed by the Examiner as having been considered and is not included. Items 17 and 20 are the same. Also, a copy of item 24 (TW-278,540) has been ordered but could not be obtained in time for this submission. Applicant's representative will forward a copy of item 24 to the Examiner as soon as it is obtained.